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APR 15 2004
Docket Number: 061063/0281359
Client Reference: OSP-10476

1742
PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of

KENJI HORI et al.

Group Art Unit: 1743

Application No.: 09/867,418

Examiner: Alexander, Lyle

Filed: May 31, 2001

Confirmation No.: 7533

For: EVALUATION METHOD FOR POLYCRYSTALLINE SILICON

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56 the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

The references were cited in a counterpart (Japanese) foreign application. English-language abstracts of the non-English language references are attached hereto. A copy of the Japanese Office Action, dated March 16, 2004, is also attached.

Applicants respectfully request the Examiner return an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to Applicants with the next Office communication to indicate that the references have been considered, per MPEP § 609.

This Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance. Please charge Deposit Account 033975 (under Order No. 061063/0281359) the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p). Please credit or debit Deposit Account 033975 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information. Two duplicate copies of this paper are attached.

I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this IDS was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1).

The references were cited in a counterpart foreign application. English-language abstracts of the non-English language references are attached hereto.

HORI et al. - - 09/867,418
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Although Japanese Patent Applications Nos. 9-7992 and 2-259563 are cited in the foreign search report, they are not included on the PTO-1449 as their U.S. and European equivalents are listed. U.S. 5,793,833 is the equivalent of Japanese Patent Application No. 9-7992 and EP 0390671 A2 is the equivalent of Japanese Patent Application No. 2-259563.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Date: April 15, 2004

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